

**ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
HERITAGE DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

Plant Abstract

Element Code: PDLNN02010

Data Sensitivity: No

CLASSIFICATION, NOMENCLATURE, DESCRIPTION, RANGE

NAME: *Pholisma arenarium*

COMMON NAME: Scaly Sandplant

SYNONYMS:

FAMILY: Lennoaceae

AUTHOR, PLACE OF PUBLICATION:

TYPE LOCALITY:

TYPE SPECIMEN:

TAXONOMIC UNIQUENESS: Three genera within Lennoaceae of which *Pholisma* appears to be the most primitive (Copeland 1935).

DESCRIPTION: Part above ground 1.0-2.0 dm (4.0-8.0 in.) tall. Unbranched stem 15.0-30.0 cm (6.0-12.0 in.) long, 15.0-20.0 mm (0.6-0.8 in) wide; fairly uniform from base to near apex; whitish in color, drying brown, fleshy with brownish scale-like leaves (cataphylls) 8.0-14.0 mm (0.32-0.56 in.) long, attaining greatest length about midway between base and apex of stem. Inflorescence spike-like; stamens and stigma even. Spikes oblong to branched, 2.0-8.0 cm (0.8-3.2 in.) across, calyx shorter than corolla, glandular-puberulent; corolla 3.0-4.0 mm (1.2-1.6 in.) broad. Seeds brown in color. N=18 (Munz 1974). For complete description, see Templeton 1962.

AIDS TO IDENTIFICATION: *P. arenarium* found on roots of shrubs such as *Hymenoclea*, *Eriodictyon*, *Haplopappus*, *Chrysothamnus*, and *Ambrosia*.

ILLUSTRATIONS: B&W photos of plant at various stages (Templeton 1962: figs 1-2; p. 21).

TOTAL RANGE: Coast from San Luis Obispo Co. to northern Lower California, Mojave and Colorado deserts. Arizona: La Paz County.

RANGE WITHIN ARIZONA: La Paz County: Bouse Wash; Cactus Plain; La Posa Plain; Parker Valley.

SPECIES BIOLOGY AND POPULATION TRENDS

GROWTH FORM: Parasite

PHENOLOGY: April-July, October (Munz 1974).

BIOLOGY: Parasitic on roots of shrubs such as *Eriodictyon*, *Haplopappus*, *Chrysothamnus*, *Hymenoclea*, *Ambrosia*, *Eriogonum parvifolium* and *Croton californicus*.

HABITAT: Coastal strand; sand dunes

ELEVATION: 470 - 900 feet (143-274 m). Below 5,000 ft (Munz 1974).

EXPOSURE:

SUBSTRATE: Sand

PLANT COMMUNITY: Creosote Bush Scrub.

POPULATION TRENDS: Unknown.

SPECIES PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT STATUS:

None

STATE STATUS:

None

OTHER STATUS:

Bureau of Land Management Sensitive
(USDI, BLM AZ 2000, 2005, 2008)

MANAGEMENT FACTORS:

PROTECTIVE MEASURES TAKEN:

SUGGESTED PROJECTS:

LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP: BIA – Colorado River Reservation; BLM – Havasu Field Office; State Land Department; Private.

SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION**REFERENCES:**

Copeland, H.F. 1935. The structure of the flower of *Pholisma arenarium*. American Journal of Botany 22(3):368-383.

Munz, P.A. 1974. A flora of southern California. University of California Press, Berkeley. p.545.

Templeton, B.C. 1962. A morphological comparison of *Pholisma arenarium* Nuttall and *Pholisma paniculatum* Templeton (Lennoaceae). Contributions in Science. Los Angeles County Museum, California. 29 pp.

USDI, Bureau of Land Management. 2000. Arizona BLM Sensitive Species List. Instruction Memorandum No. AZ-2000-018.

USDI, Bureau of Land Management. 2005. Arizona BLM Sensitive Species List.

MAJOR KNOWLEDGEABLE INDIVIDUALS:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Revised: 1995-06-05 (DBI)
1999-06-06 (DJG)

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